



Volunteers needed to create woodland habitats for butterflies

Pearl-bordered fritillary



Photo: Kate Dent

The Salisbury Wildlife Project is encouraging volunteers to get involved in a large-scale effort to protect woodland butterflies and moths.

Launched last year by the charity Butterfly Conservation, the southeast-wide project aims to help woodland owners create and manage suitable habitats for endangered species like the pearl-bordered fritillary and the common fan-foot.

One of the three areas covered by the project lies to the east of Salisbury. Known as the Tytherley Woods Project, it covers 17,320 hectares and extends into Hampshire.

“This autumn we are running a series of ‘Coppicing for Butterflies’ events in partnership with Butterfly Conservation,” says Nicky Warden, the Trust’s Salisbury Wildlife Project Officer.

“The sort of tasks being undertaken will include woodland ride widening, scrub clearance and cutting neglected coppice.”

“Opening up the woodland floor to sunlight will enable the flowers many of these woodland species rely on as food plants to thrive. Although some of the work needed is being funded by Forestry Commission grants, not all of it can be, hence the need for volunteer power.”

Coppicing for Butterflies events:

Thursday Sept 25th, Holbury Wood

Sunday Oct 19th, Frenchmoor Copse

Sunday Nov 9th, Blackmoor Copse

Thursday Nov 20th, Blackmoor Copse

Sunday Dec 7th, Blackmoor Copse

All events run from 10am to 4pm.

Tools and training are provided.

Please wear suitable outdoor clothing and bring a packed lunch. Tea, coffee and biscuits are provided. No dogs are allowed on the Holbury Wood or Frenchmoor Copse events.

For more information, directions or to book, please contact Nicky Warden on (01722) 792015.

For the Holbury Wood event, please contact Dr Kate Dent on (02380) 383455 or 07918 767635 or email kdent@butterfly-conservation.org for details and directions.

Lift sharing, or minibus, will be available from Salisbury – please call Nicky for information or to book.

“By coming along to one of our events you will not only help create the right conditions for these insects enabling them to thrive next summer, but you will also learn more about the other rare and beautiful species that live in the woods,” she adds.

For more information on the Tytherley Woods Project, contact Dr Kate Dent on (02380) 383455 or by email to kdent@butterfly-conservation.org.

About the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust



Our vision is of a sustainable future for wildlife and people. We have over 20,000 members, look after 38 nature reserves and have over 1,000 volunteers. We work with local communities, schools, businesses and public bodies to achieve our aims. Please join us.

Please enrol me/us as member/s of Wiltshire Wildlife Trust.

I/we would like to join as:

Single..... (£24)

Joint (£30)

Family (£36)

Name(s)

Address

Postcode

Telephone

I/we enclose a cheque for £ payable to Wiltshire Wildlife Trust.

Please return to:

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust
Elm Tree Court, Long Street
Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 1NJ

Tel: (01380) 725670

Fax: (01380) 729017

email: info@wiltshirewildlife.org

www.wiltshirewildlife.org

Registered Charity 266202

Autumn 2008/Winter 2009 Practical Conservation Tasks

The events listed below take place on the second Sunday of every month, from 10am – 4pm.

September 14th: River restoration at Crane Street, Salisbury

Come and help us to improve and restore the banks of the River Avon in the heart of the city. Meet at the footbridge at the back of Salisbury Library, grid ref: SU 143 301.

October 12th: River enhancement at Steeple Langford*

We'll be working to improve the flow of the River Wylye, one of Wiltshire's classic chalk streams at picturesque Steeple Langford. Meet in car park at Langford Lakes, grid ref: SU 037 370.

November 9th: Coppicing at Blackmoor Copse, the Vaughan Pickard Reserve*

Come and learn the traditional skill of coppicing at this atmospheric woodland reserve. Meet at entrance to the reserve, grid ref: SU 234 288.

December 14th: Scrub bashing at Coombe Bissett*

Come along and help with clearance of encroaching scrub from this beautiful chalk downland reserve. Meet at entrance to reserve, grid ref: SU 111 256.

January 11th: Coppicing at Harnham Slope

Come and assist local community group The Friends of Harnham Slope as they carry out some woodland management at Harnham Hill on the outskirts of Salisbury. Meet at the sports ground car park up the track from Wiltshire Road, off Parsonage Green (next to allotments), grid ref: SU 137 287.

First Thursday morning of every month at Avon Valley Nature Reserve

10am-1pm, September 4th, October 2nd, November 6th, December 4th, January 8th (second Thursday)

We undertake various tasks from boardwalk repairs to river restoration projects on Salisbury's very own Avon Valley Local Nature Reserve.

Meet at the footbridge over the River Avon by Salisbury Leisure Centre, grid ref: SU 140 310.

Important information for volunteers...

BOOKING A PLACE It is helpful if you could book in advance by calling Nicky Warden on (01722) 792015.

TRANSPORT For work parties marked '*', lift sharing or minibus will be available from Salisbury. Please call Nicky Warden on (01722) 792015 for more information or to book a place.

HEALTH We recommend that you have an up-to-date tetanus vaccination.

WHAT TO BRING All tools and training are provided. Please wear suitable outdoor clothing and footwear and bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee provided.

The Salisbury Wildlife Project

If you would like to receive a copy of this newsletter on a regular basis, get involved with the Salisbury Wildlife Project or just find out more, please contact Nicky Warden.

Contact details:

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This Wiltshire Wildlife Trust project is supported by Salisbury District Council.

